DT11 Rec'd PCT/PTO 1 4 JUL 2004

Docket No.: 543822005500

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Dirk EFFERENN et al.

Application No.: New U.S. Application

Filed: July 14, 2004

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

For: METHOD FOR MASKING A RECESS IN A

STRUCTURE HAVING A HIGH ASPECT

RATIO

Examiner: Unassigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicants respectfully request entry on this Preliminary Amendment for the above-captioned patent application.

Amendments to the Specification are reflected in the amendment to the specification which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.